

WATER BOARD FIELD OBSERVATION SUMMARY FOR OCTOBER 13, 2016

Prepared by Taylor Zentner, Engineering Geologist, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board), November 21, 2016.

On November 21, 2016, Water Board personnel Taylor Zentner and Darin Witt visited the Leviathan Mine site to make general site observations and perform general site maintenance.

U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Road 31052 from U.S. Highway 395 to Leviathan Mine was mostly solid, damp, dirt with some short, shaded, sections covered by a dusting of snow. Water Board personnel were able to easily drive to the site without using four-wheel drive. No damage to the roadbed occurred due to travel on the road. The weather during the day was cloudy, slightly breezy, with cool temperatures. Water Board staff arrived onsite at approximately 1120 hours and departed the site at approximately 1330 hours.

Water Board personnel stopped at the culvert that conveys Leviathan Creek under USFS Road 31052 immediately downstream of the confluence of Leviathan and Aspen Creeks. The culvert appears to be functioning properly. See Photos 1 and 2 for conditions observed at the culvert. Please note that the time stamp in all of the photos in this Field Observation Summary is one hour fast. For example, the time shown in Photo 1 is 12:01, the actual time was 11:01. This issue will be corrected in the future.



Photo 1 – Upstream end of culvert looking downstream



Photo 2 – Downstream end of culvert

Water Board personnel also observed the beaver ponds. The ponds are mostly full and intact. See Photo 3.



Photo 3 – Beaver pond immediately upstream from the old haul road, looking downstream

Onsite areas were mostly clear with less than one-inch of snow on some north facing slopes. The water level in Ponds 1, 2 North, and 2 South are all well below the overflow structures. No Atlantic Richfield contractors or subcontractors were observed on site. Water Board staff looked in and around the Flow Control Structure which appeared to be functioning properly. See Photos 4-6 for general site conditions.



Photo 4 – Pond 1 in the foreground and Ponds 2 North and 2 South in the background



Photo 5 – Pond 1, the water level in Pond 1 is well below the overflow structure



Photo 6 – Looking from Pond 2 North towards Pond 4 and the HDS plant

The onsite infrastructure, in the vicinity of where personnel travelled, appeared to be functioning properly on November 21, 2016. Water Board personnel will likely visit the site the week of November 28, 2016 to assist the USGS and collect general site observations. Water Board personnel will not prepare a Field Observation Summary for this upcoming visit unless site conditions are substantially different than those observed on November 21, 2016.